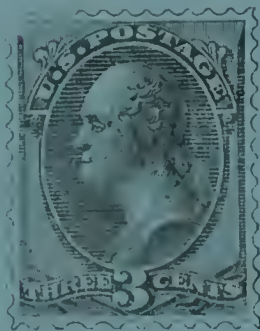


MASON'S  
MONTHLY  
COIN AND STAMP  
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

Vol. 5.

JUNE, 1871.

No. 6.

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# MASON'S

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### CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY AND ITS IMITATIONS. (Concluded.)

In the year 1779, a British transport was captured, near Sandy Hook, with many millions of counterfeit Continental bills aboard, and machinery for counterfeiting those that might be hereafter emitted by Congress. Her consort escaped, on board of which there were one hundred millions of dollars in these bills that had been manufactured in Scotland.

A million of dollars of the forged issue of 1770 is proved to have been taken from the British troops, at Sandy Hook, by Captain Allen McLane. The proof of this forgery is the bills found in the hands of the captured enemy, as shown by an extract from the journal of Major McLane, seven years a partisan officer in our War of Independence. Major McLane, of the Continental Army, at the commencement of the war, in the year 1777, was made a full captain. He remained on or near the line till January, 1780. Before the winter set in, he drove the enemy at Fort Mifflin, Monmouth county, New Jersey, attacked the garrison at Sandy Hook, took it by surprise and brought off all the prisoners, with a large quantity of Continental bills to the amount of a million of dollars, so well executed that Mr. Smith, the head of the Loan office, at Philadelphia, could not distinguish between the counterfeit and genuine bills.

[From an old newspaper, Philadelphia, November 26, 1777.]

#### No. 7.] BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

A large number of Counterfeit bills of the following emission of Continental money has lately been sent out of New York. Several millions have been detected and some persons are now under guard for uttering them. They are very easily known. Being struck on a copper plate, they look and feel smooth. The complexion of these bills differ very much from the true bills and they are very badly executed. The counterfeits are of the following emission, viz.:

\$40 bills of February 26, 1777, \$8 and \$6 bills of May, 1777. In the \$40 counterfeit, the eye is not so long by the sixteenth of an inch as the true bill and is not so plain; the smaller part of the eyelid is broken off short; in the true bill it runs almost up into the clouds; the sight part of the eye in the counterfeit is too strong and bold.

\$5 counterfeit, the first five letters in the word "Spanish" are larger than the ending letters; in the true bill they are much alike.



\$30 counterfeit, the name of one of the printers on the back is Sellors ; in the true bill it is Sellers.

\$8 counterfeit, on the face of the bill the "T" in the word Thiers is not so long as in the true bill, and the letters in general are much smaller ; the lower part of the harp in the genuine bill is much nearer to the inner circle than in the counterfeit.

\$6 counterfeit, in the word "value" the "V" is too high up in the line, but is in a line with the other letters.

One of the \$30 bills is of the same emission ; the other is a recent impression.

## LIST OF TYPES MOST COMMONLY FOUND ON GREEK AUTONOMOUS COINS.

COMPILED BY E. M., M. D.

(Concluded.)

ASIA MINOR.

*Miletus in Ionia*.—A lion and star.

*Samos in Ionia*.—A bull ; a peacock.

*Ephesus in Ionia*.—A bee.

*Colophon in Ionia*.—A dog.

*Teos in Ionia*.—A griffin, with rounded wings.

*Erythræ in Ionia*.—A bow and quiver and a club.

*Chios in Ionia*.—A griffin.

*Clazomene in Ionia*.—A lion's head and a fish.

*Phocæa in Ionia*.—A seal. The dioscirii.

*Temnos in Lydia*.—Fortune, with her attributes.

*Smyrna in Lydia*.—A female head, with turreted crown.

*Sardis in Lydia*.—A lion and bull.

*Cyme in Æolia*.—A diota, with one handle.

*Cumea in Æolia*.—A bridled horse, stepping.

*Pergamus in Mysia*.—An eagle on a thunderbolt.

*Assus in Mysia*.—A griffin beneath a bunch of grapes.

*Ilium in Mysia*.—Minerva, with distaff and spear.

*Abydos in Mysia*.—A full face or mask.

*Lampsacus in Mysia*.—A winged sea horse.

*Parium in Mysia*.—A gorgon. A bull and horse, walking.

*Cyzicus in Mysia*.—Winged boar. Lion's head, full face.

*Sigeum in Mysia*.—An owl, full or side face.

*Chalcedon in Bithynia*.—A bull. A lyre between two olive trees.

*Sinope in Paphlagonia*.—An eagle holding a fish in his claws.

*Amisus in Pontus*.—The parazonium.

*Tralles in Caria*.—A serpent issuing from the chest of Bacchus.

*Mylasa in Caria*.—A double headed ax, with a laurel wreath.

*Cnidus in Caria*.—A lion's head in profile.

*Myra in Lycia*.—A tripod.

*Olbia in Pamphylia*.—An eagle with a fish.

*Side in Pamphylia*.—Head of Pallas. A pomegranate.

*Seleucia in Cilicia*.—Thunderbolt, with flowers projecting from both sides.

*Celenderis in Cilicia*.—A goat.

*Selge in Pisidia*.—A slinger, or wrestlers.

SYRIA.

*Antiochia*.—A ram running, the head turned back towards a crescent and stars.

*Aradus (island)*.—A female head with turreted crown.

*Orthosa in Phœnicia*.—A panther.

*Sidon in Phœnicia*.—Hercules bending his bow.

*Tyrus in Phœnicia*.—Head of Hercules or Baal.

TAURIC CHERSONESUS.

*Panticapeum*.—Head of Pan.

*Phanagoria*.—A bow and arrow.

## THE SECRETS OF THE TREASURY VAULT.

BY OLIVIA.

(*Concluded.*)

One box deposited in June, 1868, by the Secretary of the Treasury, contained the original Field medal, in case, struck at the United States Mint under resolution of Congress. The paper which accompanied the medal is copied *verbatim*:

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, PHILADELPHIA, June 15, 1868.

SIR: I have the honor to forward to your address to-day, per Adams Express Company, the gold medal struck at the Mint per your instruction for Cyrus W. Field, Esq., under the resolution of Congress authorizing the same. The medal is enclosed in a neat pearl case with gold mountings, all of which were prepared from dies made from our new engraving machine. The mountings on the case are intended to harmonize with the object of the medal inside, and continue the expression of the same ideas. The fraternity of man, "ocean divided" is the gem of the sea (pearl). The trident of Neptune in the corners is the form used for the points of electricity, and expresses the real dominion or mastery of man; while the gold cable running around the gobular part of the pearl continues the metaphor. The centre, with the shield and crest of Cyrus W. Field, with the arms of the United States and England on either side, and with European arms right and left of them, expresses the binding of the nations by the cable; the small shield of America at the bottom of cable, and the private arms of Cyrus W. Field in the centre or post of honor, is asserting the claims of the first place in the enterprise for the United States.

I enclose bill for the medal and case, amount of which please remit.

Gold coin,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$593	60
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Currency,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	42	30
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Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. LINDERMAN, Director.

Hon. HUGH McCULLOCH, Secretary of Treasury, Washington, D. C.

It will be remembered that Congress appropriated five thousand dollars for the construction of this medal, but it appears that less than one thousand, exclusive of the case, actually entered into its composition. It is true it is large and clumsy enough for a medal, but why should Congress decide that something in the ugliest and



most useless shape possible should be given to one of the most distinguished of living Americans? Only those gifted with talent can understand the wretched little quirks and devices on its two flat sides; and to carry out the heathen design, more trouble and expense has been laid out on the covering or case than the medal itself. It would be well for American art if this medal and its successor could be dropped into a bottomless sea, beyond all chance of their future resurrection. Henry Ward Beecher says when he was a boy he stole a cannon ball and carried it home in his hat, and oh! mischief, the trouble that came afterwards to find out what to do with the theft. If it had been true that Andy Johnson had stolen the Field medal, Beecher and his cannon ball, Andy Johnson and the Field medal would have gone arm-in-arm down the immortal path of time.

By the side of the Field medal box were found two boxes of jewels, deposited by H. A. Risley to the account of the Treasury, one under date of December 15, 1868, and the other June 16, 1869. These boxes were examined and sealed by Mr. Hoar, by authority of the Secretary of the Treasury. [See schedule of abandoned property.] The contents of these boxes were not examined, as these are held subject to an order of the Secretary of War.

Package No. 25 contained one envelope, deposited by the postmaster at Winchester, S. R. Atwell, subject to an order of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Amount, \$1000.

Package No. 26 is an envelope, deposited by P. Eichele & Co., St. Louis, September 28, 1870, held subject to the order of Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Deposited as collateral security, upon which internal revenue stamps were furnished. Amount, \$20,000.

Package No. 27 contained different bonds of the State of Louisiana and city of New Orleans. Amount, \$1,438,500. A full examination was made of this, June 21, 1866, by a committee appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury for that purpose. Schedule on file in abandoned property division, Secretary's office, and in cash vault, Treasury's office.

Package No. 28 is a number of Bank of England notes that were purchased by Secretary Chase, to be used as a sample in the National Currency Bureau of the department, and to be held until an order is received from the Secretary authorizing the sale of them. Dated July 13, 1865.

With the Bank of England notes the list ends. Messrs. Johnes & Underwood were employed several days in the long and careful examination of this vault. Some of the dates were found to extend back as far as 1821. Some of the papers were found to be inclined to crumble at the slightest touch, and had to be handled with the greatest caution.

To the kindness of United States Treasurer Spinner, and his assistant, L. R. Tuttle, are we indebted for a description of the vault and its contents, and in the name of the people, whose servant we have the honor to be, our grateful thanks are tendered.

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF  
THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM.

(Continued.)

CANADA.

49. C. Obv.—Bouquet heavy, to left. 1 rose, 5 rose leaves, one of which turns to centre, 4 broad blades, wheat to right; 2 thistles, 2 thistle leaves, one turning to centre, 1 shamrock, 5 blades wheat, one between thistles, to left; on top a head wheat; the whole bound by ribbon, which extends about a quarter inch to right and left. “\* AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE \* BAS-CANADA.” Rev.—Very close wreath, same as No. 45, large bow curved to left with leaves close to it; wreath somewhat orange shaped and leaves very large. “UN SOU” very much spread, and dot over “o;” word “MONTREAL” close to wreath. Edge plain.

50. C. Obv.—Same as No. 49. Rev.—Same, bow curved to right.

51. C. Obv.—Small bouquet. 1 rose, 4 rose leaves, 2 shamrocks, 2 broad blades and 1 head wheat, to right; 2 thistles, 2 broad blades and 1 head wheat, 3 leaves as No. 39, one in centre to left; on top, between heads of wheat a blade of same broken and bent down, tops of bouquet close to inscription, which is same as No. 49, small bow to right, ribbon to left. Rev.—Same as No. 49, but without dot on “o.” Edge plain.

52. C. Obv.—Bouquet. 1 rose, 4 rose leaves, one turned to left, 1 shamrock, 1 blade wheat to right, 2 thistles, 1 shamrock, 4 blades wheat, and 2 leaves as No. 39, one over centre to left; on top, 3 heads wheat, two inclined to left, the other broken and bent downwards to right. Bow short and open to right; 2 ribbons to left. Inscription same as No. 49. Rev.—Same as No. 49. Edge plain.

53. C. Obv.—Very full bouquet. 2 thistles, 1 small and 2 large thistle leaves to right—one of the large leaves turns over and forms centre of bouquet; 1 large rose, 5 rose leaves, one of which turns over centre thistle leaf, sprig of 3 shamrocks to left; on top 2 heads of wheat to right and left, and 3 blades wheat between. Bow to left, short ribbon hanging downwards, to right. “AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE BAS CANADA.” Rev.—Same as No. 49. Edge milled.

54. C. Obv.—Very small bouquet. 1 rose, 4 leaves, 1 head and 1 blade wheat to right; 2 thistles, 1 blade wheat, 2 leaves as No. 39 to left—one turns over centre on top; 2 heads wheat with blade between each, inclined to left; bow and ribbon to right; ribbon to left. “: AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE : BAS-CANADA.” Rev.—Wreath of 18 leaves, very much spread, top leaves just touching; bow with long ribbon, which entwines round ends of wreath; sprigs on each side of bow; bottom of wreath nearly touches word “MONTREAL;” dot over “o” in Sou. Plain edge.

55. Brass. Obv.—Very open bouquet. 1 rose, 5 leaves, 1 shamrock, 1 head wheat to right; 2 thistles, 4 shamrocks, one between



thistles, 1 rose leaf which turns over centre; 1 head and 1 blade of wheat to left; on top, in centre, 2 blades wheat curved to right; large open bow to left, long ribbon to right. “\* AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE \* BAS-CANADA.” Rev.—Small wreath of 16 leaves with sprigs. Bow with sprigs on either side, and flowing ribbon entwined round ends of wreath. No dot over “o” in Sou. Edge plain. Scarce.

(*To be continued.*)

### AN OBITUARY NOTICE OF FRANKLIN PEALE.

*Read before the American Philosophical Society by Robert Patterson.*

(*Continued.*)

Happily for the public service, Dr. R. M. Patterson, the Director who succeeded Dr. Moore (in July, 1835), was Mr. Peale's warm friend and a great admirer of his talents. His mission did not cease, therefore, with his return from Europe, but he became associated permanently with the Mint, for a time as Assistant Assayer, then as Melter and Refiner (in 1836). His first great work was in the construction of the steam coining presses, substituted for the hand presses then in use. The first steam press was manufactured under his supervision, by Merrick, Agnew & Tyler, and turned out its first specimens in March, 1836. Presses subsequently manufactured for our own and other mints have been improved in minor points, but their principle of action remains the same.

Other improvements which he introduced were the so-called milling machine, for raising the edge of the planchet; the steam engines, small and large; the automatic or retroactive return of the draw-bench; and, in particular, the scales for weighing of silver. These last are models of simple mechanism and nice accuracy. So, in fact, was all of Mr. Peale's work. And we may add, that he brought to all the eye of an artist. It was not enough that a machine should be effective; it must also be graceful and attractive. “Nihil tetigit quod non ornavit.” But I cannot enter at large into details of his labors at the mint. I simply add my conviction that, without Franklin Peale, the most of that which attracts the admiration of the visitors to the coining department of the Mint would have been wanting.

The mark of inventive genius is here conspicuous, and I have often thought, as I passed through that part of the establishment, how appropriately might be there ascribed to his honor, the words: “Si monumentum requiris circumspice.” But a more competent judge than myself, thoroughly qualified by long experience in mint affairs, has spoken to this point in words which I take the liberty to quote: “It has been my privilege (he says) to visit the mints of London and Paris, and to witness their inferiority in the mechanical arrangements to the Mint in Philadelphia. The superiority of our Mint is most manifest in just those points where his hand has touched, and when Americans visiting the mints of Europe feel a pride in remembering the superiority of their own, they ought to know that to the



genius and taste of Franklin Peale are they mainly indebted for it. At the mints of both Paris and London he was well known and inquired for with interest."

Mr. Peale's connection with the Mint ceased in December, 1854, and he retired for some time from all public employment. In 1864, he was elected President of the Hazleton Coal and Railroad Company, in the direction of which he had been for many years an active member. He continued in this office until 1867, when he resigned, and finally closed his long career of active business life.

I have thus hastily sketched the professional life of Mr. Peale, by which his public reputation was established; but any notice of his character would be far from complete which left out what we may call its æsthetic side, including those varied accomplishments and elegant tastes which made him one of the most interesting of men.

(To be continued.)

## THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

*Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.*

(Continued.)

The Hyacinth. Writers differ about the identity of this stone as about so many others. We suspect the cause of these differences is chiefly that they are speaking about varieties of the same stone. Without essaying the difficult and protracted task of reconciling their discrepancies, we shall take for our main authority the latest and, in our view, the ablest of these writers, James Nicols. He holds the Hyacinth to be identical with the "zircon."

This stone occurs in imbedded crystals, chiefly prismatic or pyramidal, and in rounded grains. It is in its several species not only red, but gray, yellow, green and colorless.

It is most abundant in the sienite of Southern Norway and in the mica-schist of the Ural Mountains. It abounds in numerous parts of Europe, as also of North America.

The colorless varieties are often sold for Diamonds. The specific name, Hyacinth, is more particularly appropriated to the most brilliantly colored ones, which are rarely of large size. The hyacinthus of ancients is believed by scientific writers to have been a different stone.

The Cat's-eye. This stone takes its name from the peculiar play of light on its surface, whereby it variously appears greenish-white or gray, olive-green, red, brown or yellow. It contains parallel fibres, resembling those of amianthus or mountain flax. The finest come from Ceylon and Malabar, but it is also found in the Hartz Mountains, in Bavaria, and in several of the United States.

It is a species of the universal quartz, and is found, never larger than a hazel nut, in the fragments of boulders and gangs. It is valued according to the size, color and play of light. In the Impe-

rial Cabinet at Vienna, a Cat's-eye five inches long, and of a yellowish-brown color, is preserved.

Some of the ancients called this stone "oculis solis," or of the eye sun, and the Persians named it "mithrax," the sun. This stone is, at the present day a great favorite in China, and commands a high price there.

The beautiful and popular stone called the Opal is next in our order. We shall open our description of this favorite gem with our excellent old friend Nicols's rhapsodic outburst. "The Opalus is a precious stone, which hath in it the bright fiery flame of a Carbuncle, the pure, refulgent purple of an Amethyst, and a whole sea of Emerald's spring glory, or viresency, and every one of them shining with an incredible mixture, and very much pleasure." To our excellent friend's account we must add the finest species of this stone emit also the yellow of the Topaz and the blue of the Sapphire. It is, in one word, a natural prism, which, like the soap bubble or the three cornered glass, decomposes the sunbeam into its elements. About the cause of this decomposition "doctors disagree." Brewster's theory seems the most plausible, viz.: that this cause is the existence of fissures and cracks in the interior of the mass.

Professor Nicols notices nine varieties of this gem, all possessing more or fewer of the same general characteristics. Our space will permit our touching on but one. We may premise that the name is derived from the Greek "ops," eye—the Greeks, who highly valued the stone, believing it to have the power of strengthening the eye. We may add here, to save a fresh reference, that the Greeks fancied it had the effect to conciliate universal good will to its possessors, and therefore named it also "paideros," *i. e.* love of children. In the Apocalypse, Saint John compares the Celestial City, as a whole, to an Opal, as exhibiting all colors at once.

The finest of the Opal species is called the precious or noble Opal. Nicols names various parts of the East as producing it. Recent writers contradict him and say that Hungary, Saxony, the Faroe Islands and South America are its native localities. It is found in small gangs and nests of the volcanic porphyry formation.

This gem is used for rings, necklaces and diadems—the smaller specimens for mounting snuff-boxes, rings, etc. It still stands in very high estimation, though probably not so high as among the Romans, in whose day it was said Nonius, a Roman Senator, chose banishment rather than surrender a splendid Opal to Mark Anthony. Its present estimation may be judged from the fact that a single large Opal was lately sold in Europe for \$150 000. This gem has never yet been imitated.

The Imperial Mineralogical Cabinet at Vienna contains a precious Opal weighing seventeen ounces; and among the French Jewels is a cloak clasp mounted with an Opal, valued at 37,500 francs. It is surrounded by one hundred and ninety-seven other Brilliants.

(*To be continued.*)



## THE NEW JAPANESE COINS.

Advices have been received at the Treasury Department, from Japan, covering an official statement and *fac-similes* of the coins recently adopted by the Japanese government. They consist of one "yew," or dollar silver piece, weight, 416 grains, 9-10 fine. On the obverse is the usual Japanese dragon; in the centre, surrounded by the "yew," corresponding to 1871, the word "Japan" and the legend one dollar, all in Japanese characters. On the reverse is the sun radiating rays, which is the crest of Mikado, and under this a wreath, on one side of grape leaves, and on the other of oak leaves, fastened by a cord simulating a bow. This piece is the standard of value and is legal tender for all amounts.

The remaining coins consist of subsidiary silver and gold. The subsidiary silver is fifty seus, weighing 208 grains, 8-10 fine; the twenty seus weighing 83 2-10 grains, 8-10 fine; the ten seus weighing 41 6-10 grains, 8-10 fine; and the five seus weighing 20 6-10 grains, 8-10 fine.

The gold coins, which are legal tenders for \$100 pieces, are embellished on the obverse in the same manner as the silver.

On the reverse are in the centre the sun with radiating rays, surrounded by a small wreath of oak and grape leaves, and supported on each side by the Imperial gonfalon, one containing the full moon and the other the quarter moon. Above is the Treasury seal, small size, and below the crest of the head of the Treasury. The pieces are ten "yew," or dollars, weighing 248 grains, 9-10 fine; five "yew," weighing 124 grains, 9-10 fine, and two "yew," weighing 49 6-10 grains, 9-10 fine.

The copper pieces have on the obverse very nearly the same blazon, and on the reverse very nearly the same, with the legend "legal coin," and their value. They consist of the one seu, or one cent piece, or one one-hundredth of a "yew," and weighing 110 grains; the half "seu" or one two-hundredth of a "yew," weighing 55 grains; and the one "rin," answering to our mill, weighing 14 grains, being the one-thousandth of a "yew."

The subsidiary silver is a legal tender for one hundred pieces, the same as gold. None of these coins have been struck as yet, and the Governor, now here, proposes some changes, suggested by his examination of our system, one of which is the making of gold the legal standard and tender, and our assimilation of the weights to the standard proposed by the conventions on the unification of currencies.

## CURIOUS RESERVATION OF MONEY.

Some hundred years ago, Prince Dietrichstein sold his Silesian property to the Great Fredeirck for 333,333 $\frac{1}{3}$  ducats. The third of a ducat was then for the first time coined at the royal mint, especially to complete this sum. One year ago, the last of these Dietrichsteins died at Vienna, and among other funds were found those 333,333 $\frac{1}{3}$  ducats, untouched and unused.

## COIN SALES.

The sale of the Cauffman collection came off at Bangs, Mervin & Co.'s, May 3 and 4, and comprised an exceedingly interesting lot of American, foreign and ancient pieces. The sale was well attended on both days and the bidding was very spirited. Prices ranged much higher than at previous sales, greatly, no doubt, to the satisfaction of the owner. The interest in the sale was great, and drew bidders from Philadelphia, Boston and other cities. Some of the prices were as follows:

- 1794 Dollar, \$32.
- 1795 Dollar, fillet head, \$17.
- 1846 Proof Dollar, \$15.
- 1847 Proof Dollar, \$14.
- 1858 Proof Set, \$14 25.
- 1794 Half Dollar, \$12.
- 1795 Half Dollar, \$19.
- 1797 Half Dollar, \$16.
- 1805 Half Dollar, \$4 75.
- 1815 Quarter Dollar, \$6 25.
- 1794 Half Dime, \$11 50.
- Martha Washington Half Disme, \$44 50.
- 1795 Liberty and Security, brass, \$25.
- 1793 Chain Cent, \$15 50.
- 1804 Cent, \$13.
- 1825 Uncirculated Cent; \$9 50.
- 1795 Half Cent; thick planchet, \$29 50.

A collection of coins was sold at Bangs, Merwin & Co.'s, New York, on the 1st and 2d of June. It comprised some fine Colonial and Washington pieces; cents and half cents; American gold; a few patterns and an assortment of Greek and Roman coins; American and foreign medals; also, a few scarce numismatic books. Not many of the pieces were extraordinary as to condition; neither did the pieces realized rate as high as in the Cauffman sale.

## TREASURE TROVE.

Mr. Hanson Garrett, of Strickersville, Pa., while plowing an old clearing, on Evan Garrett's farm, turned up an old earthen crock, containing thirty-three old Spanish dollars, dated 1776 and 1760, and one American dollar dated 1798. The crock was very rotten and fell to pieces from its own weight. In a few more furrows, Mr. John Barker, who was also plowing, turned up another, containing nine dollars and fifty cents in smaller change, ranging from quarter dollars to six-and-a-quarter-cent pieces.

## PRINTED PRICE LIST OF THE CAUFFMAN SALE.

We are now prepared to offer to our subscribers and patrons the printed price list of the Cauffman sale, four pages, very neatly printed and suitable for binding with the catalogue. Price, 25 cents.



FOREIGN EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

We have received, just as we go to press, several communications from our copartner, now in England, intended for this number of the journal, but omitted for want of room. The following letter we, however, insert, which will explain itself:

LIVERPOOL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, May 17, 1871.

E. MASON, Esq., Liverpool:

DEAR SIR: I have great pleasure in informing you that, at a general meeting of this Society, held on the 16th inst., you were unanimously elected a corresponding member.

I beg to thank you, on behalf of the Society, for your very handsome donation of American coins from one dollar to one cent. Also, for your very rare series of old American paper currency, which will be exhibited at the next meeting of the Society.

Yours, truly,

CHARLES LIONEL REIS, Honorable Secretary.

21 Lord Street.

In our next issue, we shall give the proceedings of the Liverpool Numismatic Society, at their meeting of May 16, and hope to receive the proceedings of their next meeting in time for insertion in the July issue, as we understand that several very interesting numismatic papers will be read before the Society. Mr. Mason writes very glowingly of his reception and treatment by the English numismatists.

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OUR PARTNER IN EUROPE.

We have received several letters from our senior partner, E. Mason, Jr., now in Europe. He says he is buying a large quantity of very fine pieces, both American and foreign; also, that he has bought a small collection of very fine American pieces. Our stock will be largely increased on his return, which we anticipate will be about the 15th of June. We have received rubbings of some very rare and curious coins that he has purchased. A description of them will be given in the next number of the magazine.

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BUNKER HILL RELICS.

At an auction sale, in Boston, last month, there was sold, for one hundred and fifty dollars, a scrap book, containing a collection of manuscript accounts of the battle of Bunker Hill, fifty of them written or signed by soldiers who were in the fight, and two hundred other letters, documents, etc., mostly relating to Bunker Hill.

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A CURIOUS INVENTION.

We were lately shown a French made envelope, with a little string running just inside the upper edge, and of which the end protruded. On taking hold of this end, and giving a gentle pull, the envelope is ripped open along the edge. By this mode of opening, all danger of destroying the envelope to get at the letter, or of injuring the letter itself, is done away with. The string is secured under the edge of the flap, at each end, by two little points of wax.

## Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

### POSTAGE STAMPS FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

Partly from *Le Timbre-Poste*, and partly from private sources, we are enabled to furnish early information respecting the new stamps of the French republic.

We referred last month to the rumor that, on the 1st of November, stamps, bearing a full length figure of the republic (or Liberty), and inscribed with words LIBERTE, EGALITE, FRATERNITE, were to be issued; and it now appears that an announcement to that effect was made in the *Paris Journal Officiel*; but though they are probably in preparation, they have not yet appeared. In their stead we have the old republic stamps back again! Strange mutation which brings them once more into currency. Advocates of the advantages of philately, when urging the historical value of a collection, have been apt to point their argument by reference to the stamps of 1848 and their successors; but none dreamed that the old finely engraved designs which have contributed so much to ornament our French page would one day be in circulation again; that the laurel crowned Emperor would be a prisoner; and a republican government occupy his place. Still less could they anticipate that supplies of the recalled stamps would be issued whilst Paris was in a state of siege, and leave the capital by balloon. How much stronger the case for stamp collectors will now become, when for years hence they may point, in justification of their pursuit, to the stamps which, thus resuscitated, are connected, and that in the most direct manner, with one of the most important events in the world's history.

From a very interesting letter written by Dr. Magnus, forwarded from Paris *par balloon monte*, and published in the current number of our Belgian contemporary, we learn the following notice appeared in the *Petit Moniteur Universel* of the 14 October (published the previous evening). "Yesterday, the new stamps of the republic were put on sale at the central office of the *Hotel des Postes*. The offices of the *arrondissements* will be successively supplied with them; and in a few days, M. Rampont, the Postmaster-General, will have satisfied the sharp complaints on the subject which have been addressed to him by certain republicans."

Up to the present time only two values have been issued; they are the two which we suggested last month, as likely to appear the first:

10 centimes, bistre.

20 centimes, blue.

The stamps which are used in the capital are *perforated*; this, in itself, sufficiently distinguishes them from the original emission. Of the 20 c. we have now a copy before us, and find that, as Dr. Magnus states, the number of dents is the same as in the imperial 20 c., resulting from the employment of the same perforating machine. The color of the stamp, also, is, we may say, identical with that of the



20 c., blue, of the empire, but the tint of the paper is much lighter, being, in fact, hardly discernable. The 10 c. is described by Dr. Magnus as not resembling in color either the 1850 stamp, which was dark yellowish bistre, nor that of 1862, which is a paler shade of yellow; it is, in fact, a *reddish* brown.

Thus far the learned doctor. From a contributor, residing in France, we have information that both the 10 c. and 20 c. exist *unperforated*. As the supply of imperial stamps is now nearly exhausted, the provincial offices are beginning to receive from Tours a stock of the republican stamps of the two values. Our correspondent, who dates from Boulogne, says that the 10 c. is already in use there, and that the 20 c., of which a stock has been received, will be issued, as soon as the imperial stamps are used up. At Amiens, the 20 c. is in circulation.

Now, as to the perforation: The 10 c. stamps sold at Boulogne and the 20 c. of Amiens are unperforated, whilst the Boulogne officials affirm that the 20 c. are perforated. If this statement be correct then we get both varieties among the provincial supplies; but it becomes difficult then to say where the stamps were manufactured. To admit the stock was sent out from Paris by balloon is rather difficult, for the weight of such a quantity of paper as it would be composed of would be considerable, and further, if the stamps had been made in Paris, they would certainly have been perforated, and would most probably have been of the same color; whilst, in fact, the blue is darker and the 10 c. is of a *very pale yellowish bistre*. It is far more probable that they were made at Tours, and there being no perforating machine there, the supplies had to be despatched unperforated; and only the alleged possession of a perforated supply at the Boulogne offices militates against this hypothesis.

In a few days we shall know the truth about the Boulogne 20 c., but, meanwhile, we can affirm, after a most careful examination, that whilst the stamps used in Paris are from the original dies, *the provincial supplies have been printed either from new or retouched dies*, and we strongly incline to believe that the design has been entirely re-engraved. Comparison of a Tours stamp (as we will term it) with either a Parisian current reprint or an original, will show fifty differences in detail; hardly a single line in the Tours stamp is *identical* in position with its representative in the original; the head is rounder, there is less space at top between it and the edge of the pearled circle, the curve of the eyebrows is continued to the temple; all the lettering is smaller; on the right upper corner the last bar of the Greek border is carried clean up to the corner square; the disposition of the hair is not the same, and—most easy point in distinguishing—the shading of the neck is formed of thick straight continuous lines instead of the fine curved dotted ones. The general resemblance, however, is so great that one can hardly imagine it possible for any engraver, and particularly a provincial one, to follow the original one with such scrupulous accuracy. If, however, as is pretty

evident, supplies of stamps are being printed independently and simultaneously at Tours and Paris, there must be two sets of dies at work, and unless there were sent out from Paris casts from the original dies, there must have been new dies made at Tours. We hope we may be able to solve these interesting points in our next number. As to dates of emission, we may accept the 12th of October as that of the Paris printed pair, but we feel certain that the provincial supplies could not have appeared earlier than the middle of November. The Boulogne postmaster had made repeated applications for stamps to the Tours office, but he only received his supplies about the 20th ult., and the first letter from Amiens, bearing a 20 c. republic, is dated the 26th ult. Had any been used before, our contributor could hardly have failed to obtain information of the fact.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

#### NEW ISSUES.

FRANCE.—Early in April, all the stamps in the Paris post office were removed to Versailles, their value being two million of francs. The new employes in Paris sent around to the tobacco shops for all that were to be found, and finally were obliged to mark off payment on the letters with a pen. We have not heard whether the Commune issued any stamps. We have seen all the values of the present republican stamps surcharged diagonally, in large black type, "B. Ballon, P. E." They are said to have been used in Paris by the *ballon poste expedition*.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The *Honolulu Gazette* announces the appearance of new Sandwich Island stamps in the following manner: "*New Postage Stamps*.—Specimens of the new Hawaiian postage stamps were received by the Postmaster-General, on Monday, by the 'Comet.' The designs are very handsome and appropriate, and correspond with the two and five cent stamps now in use. The stamps received are of the denomination of one, six and eighteen cents; the one cent is violet colored, with a vignette of the late Princess Victoria Kamamalu; the six cent stamp is green, with the likeness of his Majesty; and the eighteen cent is pink, with the likeness of his late highness, M. Kekuanaoa, all of which are most perfect likenesses."

SARAWAK.—A new three cent stamp for Sarawak, bearing the head of the present rajah, looking to the left, has just made its appearance. It is printed brown on yellow, like its predecessor, but is a squarer stamp, and is lettered at the corners C.—B. and R.—S.

QUEENSLAND.—A correspondent sends us four specimens of the current six-pence watermarked Q and crown, and not previously noticed by us. The four specimens are of different shades, varying from emerald to chrome green.

GUATEMALA.—We have seen specimens of an issue for this republic, both postmarked and otherwise. They appear correct; but, in the present very dubious state of philatelic traffickers' consciences,



we cannot positively vouch for their genuine character. Some of our readers may possibly remember the essay figure in our number for January, 1858, emanating from the *atelier* of Mons. Hulot, of Paris. That type has been chosen for the set now under notice. For the benefit of those who do not possess or have not at hand the volume in question, the description is given as follows: Rectangular; color on plain white unwatermarked paper; perforated. An oval frame bears CORREOS DE GUATEMALA above; value in full beneath. The centre contains a shield, surmounted by the sun fully rayed; a branch of oak (!) and one of olive lies below. The spandrels exhibit a neat Greek ornamentation; and small squares, at the lower angles right and left, contain numerals of value. The essay alluded to was one centavo, blue. The existent set, as far as we have seen—but probably higher values are, or will be out—consists of

1 centavo, light brown.

10 centavos, blue.

5 centavos, full brown.

20 centavos, pink.

SPAIN.—*The Stamp Collectors' Magazine* notes that the current 25 milesimas is now bright mauve; and the *Timbre-Poste* announces the appearance of a new set bearing the representation of Amadeus I, on the 1st of July. A Turin engraver has submitted designs, but their acceptance is doubtful.

LUXEMBOURG.—The latter authority announces the change of color in the yellow 4 centimes of the duchy. It is now green.

RUSSIA.—We add another individual to the fast accruing Russian locals. The impression is round, composed of two circles printed in deep pink. The inner, which is considerably broader than the outer, bears a descriptive inscription in Russian characters, to the effect, as we are informed, that the stamp serves the rural post of the district of Tvev. The value, 2 k., is hand stamped in blue, more or less irregularly within the central circular space.

MEXICO.—The *Bath Magazine* notices a 3 centavos (eagle) of this country, dark brown on white laid paper. There is also a caution against imitations of the engraved 13 centavos of Maximilian. The inscription is in characters too large, and the groundwork of the oval is plain in lieu of being horizontally lined. They are printed both on white and bluish paper. It is stated that they were received direct from the German resident consul, but may have been counterfeited in America.

BAVARIA.—The perforated stamps of this kingdom are devoid of silken threads. They would, of course, have interfered with the convenient separation of the individuals. They are printed on laid paper, bearing a double diamond of a watermark. Those yet out are

1 kreuzer, green.

3 kreuzer, pink.

7 kreuzer, blue.

ENGLAND.—The match box stamps, printed in view of the passage of the law imposing a duty on matches, were prepared at an expense of five thousand dollars. That this shall not be lost to the Treasury, it is proposed that the stamps be sold to collectors for their albums.

## 100 MASON'S COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE.

### UNITED STATES PRIVATE PROPRIETARY STAMPS.

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THIS MAGAZINE BY J. P. ANSHUTZ.

(Continued.)

P. T. Ives (Coe's Matches), rect., 1 cent, blue; oblong, 8 cents, blue; 1 cent, black.

Dr. D. Jayne & Son, Philadelphia, hexagonal, 1 cent, blue; 2 cents, black; 4 cents, green.

W. S. Kyle, Boston, Mass., Matches, rect., 1 cent, black.

T. Kensett & Co., Baltimore, rect., 1 cent, green.

J. B. Kelley & Co., New York, Garnhart & Kelley, St. Louis (Kelley's Old Cabin Bitters), oblong, 4 cents, black.

Kennedy's Family Medicines, rect., 1 cent, green.

Lawrence & Cohen, New York, rect., 2 cents, blue; 5 cents, green.

Jno. J. Sooy, New York, rect., 5 cents, black.

Littlefield, rect., 1 cent, black.

Lee & Osgood (Chas. Lee's Pills), Norwich, Conn., rect., 1 cent, blue.

Lacour's Matches, New York, rect., 1 cent, black.

George W. Laird, rect., 3 cents, black.

Dr. McLane's Celebrated Liver Pills, Pittsburg, oblong, 1 cent, blue.

Dr. McLane's Celebrated Vermifuge, Pittsburg, oblong, 1 cent, black.

Dr. J. McLean, St. Louis, rect., 1 cent, black.

McMann's Elixir of Opium, New York, oblong, 1 cent, green.

Merchant's Gargling Oil, Lockport, New York, rect., 1 cent, black; 2 cents, green.

Mishler's Herb Bitters, Lancaster and Pittsburg, oblong, 4 cents, black; 6 cents, black.

Moorehead's Magnetic Plaster, oblong, 1 cent, black.

Mercudo & Seully, oblong, 2 cents, black.

New York Match Co., oblong, 1 cent, green.

Park City, Match Co., Kenosha, Wis., rect., 1 cent, green; 3 cents, brown.

Poland's White Pine Compound, Boston, hexagonal, 4 cents, black.

P. M. Co., Portland, Maine, Matches, rect., 1 cent, black.

V. R. Powell's Telegraph Matches, Troy, N. Y., rect., 1 cent, blue; 1 cent, black.

Pierce Match Co., Ills., oblong, 1 cent, green.

Radway & Co., New York, oblong, 2 cents, black.

D. Ransom & Co., Buffalo, rect., 1 cent, blue; 2 cents, black.

(To be continued.)

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### NEW STAMP PACKET LIST.

Our new postage stamp packet list will be issued hereafter quarterly, commencing July 1. Lists sent free. All orders of ten dollars will be entitled to a discount of ten per cent. Special arrangements with agents.





### COINS FOR SALE.

English Silver Crowns, prior to 1700 ; good condition, . . . . .	\$1 50
English Half Crowns ; old dates, . . . . .	75
French Medals ; bronze ; proof, . . . . .	75
Greek Silver Coins, . . . . .	75
“ Brass “ . . . . .	50
Roman Silver Coins, . . . . .	50
“ Brass “ . . . . .	15
California Gold Dollar, octagon or round, . . . . .	1 75
“ Half Dollar, “ . . . . .	75
“ Quarter Dollar, octagon or round, . . . . .	50
United States Mint Sets—Five, Three, Two and One Cent Pieces ; 1871 ; proofs, . . . . .	25
United States Mint Sets—One Dollar to One Cent, inclusive ; 1871 ; proofs, . . . . .	4 50
100 Store Cards, all different, fine, . . . . .	3 00
100 Rebellion Tokens, all different, fine, . . . . .	3 00
Silver Proof Sets, 1859 to 1870, each, . . . . .	5 50

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### PHOTOGRAPHIC CURIOSITIES.

The London Times in miniature—a photographic copy of the great newspaper—every word and letter distinct and in exact form and appearance of the original—4 inches by 3 inches. Every lover of the curious should have a copy. Price, 25 cents. Also, Harper's Weekly—photographic copy, in perfect miniature (size of a visiting card) and folded in exact appearance of the original—illustrations remarkably perfect. Price, 25 cents.

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### 1793 CENTS.

We have received a small lot of poor 1793 cents, dates not visible, which we will sell from 25 cents to 50 cents, each, according to condition ; also, a few extra chain or link '93's, at \$10, each ; extra wreath '93's, \$5, each ; good wreath '93's, \$2 50, \$3 and \$3 50, each.

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### AMERICAN COINS.

1799 Cent, . . . . .	\$25 00
1799 Cent, good, . . . . .	5 00
1794 Dollar, . . . . .	33 00

We have lately purchased a fine collection of silver dollars, half dollars and quarter dollars, which we are offering at reasonable prices.

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### CHROMOS.

We have a large stock of chromos on hand—portraits of beautiful ladies—which we will send by mail at the following prices :

Full Length Figure, . . . . .	\$ 25
Half Length Figure, . . . . .	20
Heads and Busts, enameled, . . . . .	20
Largest Size, very fine, . . . . .	40
A full set, one of each, all different and different sizes, . . . . .	90

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